

SIERRA – SAN JOAQUIN NOXIOUS WEED ALLIANCE
Fresno, Madera, Mariposa Counties Weed Management Area

Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 9, 2002

Agenda Overview:

1. Introductions
 2. Minutes/Agenda Approval
 3. SB-1740 year 2/3 updates
 4. HR 1462
 5. Resource Advisory Committee
 6. Education Outreach – Envirothon, Brochures, Workshops
 7. Items to be emailed to WMA committee
 8. Items for next agenda
1. **Attendees:** Joanna Clines, Sierra National Forest; Jenny Gabor, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Madera; Denis Griffin, California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), Fresno; Roscoe Rowney, California Department of Forestry and Fire, Jeannine Koshear, Millerton Lake district CA-State Parks; Peggy Moore, U.S. Geological Survey, Yosemite; Toby Horst, Sierra Resource Conservation District; Doug Edwards, Fresno County; Kelley NeVile, Coarsegold Resource Conservation District; Fred Rinder, Fresno County; Aimee Smith, Forest Service, Marty Acree, National Park Service, Yosemite; Terry Sandridge, Sierra Resource Conservation District; Shannon Sommer, Forest Service; David Robinson, Madera Co. Dept of Ag.; Ann Mendershausen, Mariposa Resource Conservation District; Linda Ballentine, Arroyo Pasajero CRMP; Kerry Eastman, San Joaquin River Parkway and Cons. Trust
2. **Minutes/Agenda Approval:** Minutes were approved by the committee for the November meeting. The final draft will be sent to Peggy Moore who will forward them to the CDFA web master at www.cdfa.ca.gov/wma as a PDF file. A copy will also be mailed to the Sierra-San Joaquin Noxious Weed Alliance membership.
3. **SB 1740 Year 2/3 updates:**
Matt Caldwell is the primary contact for the SB-1740 grant. Carrie Benefield is no longer a contact. We are waiting to get formal notice that we have received the supplemental funding. Counties are anticipating the arrival of contracts to be signed and sent back to CDFA for 2002.

Supplemental Spray program:

A meeting was held November 26th at the Madera County Ag Commissioner's office to discuss the co-op spray program covering eastern Madera County. A coordinator is needed to contact landowners and establish infested acreage totals.

A workshop is planned for February to cover the Co-op spray program in Raymond and Oakhurst. Mark Grossi from the Fresno Bee will be contacted to get a story in the paper.

For Co-op spray programs, contractors must be aware of the funding methods through counties. RCDs may have to front the contractors the funds until payment is processed.

State Parks:

3-5 acres of arundo (*Arundo donax*) have been mapped at Millerton Lake

4. HR-1462

There are approximately 5 million dollars available for weed management in California with this federal bill. Doug Edwards will develop a template letter of support from the WMA to be signed and sent in.

5. Resource Advisory Committee

Aimee Smith informed the board of the Resource Advisory Committee for the Sierra National Forest. It was developed from the Secure Rural Schools and Communities Self Determination Act of 2000. The Committee will meet Saturday, January 12th at 9am to determine the Bylaws and responsibilities. The meeting is open to the public. The WMA will determine how much and when projects should be submitted to this committee at the next meeting.

6. Education Outreach:

Top 10 Noxious Weed Brochures: The WMA will reprint more brochures with 2002 - SB1740 funds. Westside RCD has offered cost-share assistance as well to help fund the reprints. Those who wish to help reprint more than the proposed 5000 should notify the WMA. Names of those who donate reprinting funds will have their names published in the brochures.

Envirothon: A natural resource competition for high school students will be held at the E.C.C.O lodge in Oakhurst this year. We will try and have a display of noxious weeds up at the event. Joanna Clines, Shannon Sommer and Jenny Gabor will be involved in the event activities. If you have any questions or would like to get involved, please contact Jenny by email at Jennifer.Gabor@ca.usda.gov

7. Items to be emailed to the WMA committee:

Notice on status of supplemental funds
HR-1462 letter template
Reno weed meeting flyer
Brochure reprint info

8. Future agenda items:

Future projects and requests from the Resource Advisory Committee
GPS use workshop
Brochures – Development of new publication

Dates to remember:

Feb. 13-14 Weed Science Society of America, Reno
March 8-10th Back Country Horsemen Rendezvous, Madera Fairground

To be in WMA Web site:

1. Meeting Minutes dating back to April 1998
3. Monitoring Standards (revised by Peggy)
4. Brochure
5. Directions and contact(Joanna) to meeting
6. Workshop, meeting and important dates
7. Additions to CDFA calendar with all meetings and events
8. Newspaper article from Mountain Press